	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Notice of Allowability	Аррисацоп но.	
	09/993,970 <b>Examiner</b>	MCGUINNESS ET AL.  Art Unit
	Examiner	Art office
	DANIEL G. MARIAM	2625
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.		
1/X This communication is responsive to an amendment filed 5/13/05 & a telephone int. dated 7/19/05.		
2. X The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12,14-20 and 22-26.		
3. The drawings filed on 16 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.		
<ul> <li>4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:</li> <li>1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No</li> <li>3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> </ul>		
* Certified copies not received:		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.		
<ul> <li>6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.</li> <li>(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached</li> <li>1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date</li> <li>(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date</li> </ul>		
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).		
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.		
Attachment(s)  1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date  4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	No. ☑ Interview Summary Paper No./Mail Da No. ☑ Examiner's Amendr	te <u>07/19/2005</u> .
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# EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey N. Giunta (Registration No. 42,583) on July 19, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

## Amend claim 9 as follows:

At line 3, delete "on" and replace it with "by" - -

At line 7, delete "at" and replace it with "by" - -

At line 8, after the first occurrence of "features" insert "determined to have a maximum average strength of correspondence" - -

At line 15, delete "on" and replace it with "by" - -

### Amend claim 12 as follows:

At line 2, delete the second occurrence of "a" - -

### Amend claim 17 as follows:

At line 4, delete "on" and replace it with "by" - -

At line 8, delete "at" and replace it with "by" - -

At line 9, after the first occurrence of "features" insert "determined to have a maximum average strength of correspondence" - -

At line 16, delete "on" and replace it with "by" - -

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Amend claim 25 as follows:

At line 3, delete "on" and replace it with "by" - -

At line 5, delete "at" and replace it with "by" - -

Amend claim 26 as follows:

At line 3, delete "on" and replace it with "by" - -

Amend the specification as follows:

In page 1, first paragraph under the heading "CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS", line 2, after "2001" insert - - , which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,834,119 issued on December 21, 2004, - -

Reasons for Allowance

- 2. Claims 1-12, 14-20, and 22-26 are allowed.
- 3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: With respect to independent claim 1, applicant's arguments, see pages 16-21, filed May 13, 2005 have been fully considered and are found to persuasive, and the obviousness rejection of claims 1-5 is withdrawn, making independent claim 1 allowable over the closest prior art of Zhang, et al. since dependent claims 2-8 further restrict this claim they are allowable also for the same reason. With respect to claims 9-12, 14-20, and 22-26, the closest prior art of Zhang does not teach or fairly suggest, among other things, determining by the first processor, a first correspondence of distinct image features determined to have a maximum average strength of correspondence between the first set of distinct image features and at least a second set of distinct image features detected within at least a second image of the first plurality of images; and determining, by the second processor, a final correspondence of distinct image features detected in a second plurality

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of images by processing the first set of distinct image features, the second set of distinct image features, and the plurality of correspondences. Hence, and in view of applicant's arguments, amendment, and in combination with the other elements of the claims that claims 1-12, 14-20, and 22-26 are allowed over the closest prior art of Zhang, et al.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIEL G. MARIAM whose telephone number is 571-272-7394. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:00-4:30) FIRST FRIDAY OFF.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BHAVESH M. MEHTA can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

July 21, 2005